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DETAILED ACTION

1. This is the second Office action on the merits of Application No. 10/572,610, filed on 20 March 2006. Claims 15-29 are pending.

Documents

2. The following documents have been received and filed as part of the patent application:
- Copy of Foreign Priority Document, received on 03/20/06
 - Information Disclosure Statement, received on 03/20/06
 - Substitute Specification, received on 03/20/06

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with applicant's attorney, Michael J. Bujold, on 22 August 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 17:

- Line 4, "non-selected shifting forks" has been amended as --the non-selected shifting forks--.

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Claim 19:

- Line 4, “in such a manner that” has been amended as --such that--.

Claim 20:

- Line 2, “wherein elements of the selection apparatus” has been amended as --
wherein the elements of the selection apparatus--.

Claim 29:

- Line 18, “the at least one blocking apparatus” has been amended as --the plurality
of blocking apparatus--.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 15-29 are allowed.
5. The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 15:

The prior art of record fails to show or render obvious a shifting device comprising an axially slidable shifting shaft, a plurality of shifting forks, a selection apparatus, at least one blocking apparatus, elements for carrying out the shift, and elements of the selection apparatus, as recited in claim 15; specifically, wherein the at least one blocking apparatus is manufactured of a material which has less structural strength than the elements for carrying out the shift.

Claim 29:

The prior art of record fails to show or render obvious a shifting device comprising an axially slidable shifting shaft, a plurality of shifting forks, a selection apparatus, a plurality of blocking apparatus, elements for carrying out the shift, and elements of the selection apparatus, as recited in claim 29; specifically, wherein the plurality of blocking apparatus are manufactured of a material which has less structural strength than the elements for carrying out the shift.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David D. Le whose telephone number is 571-272-7092. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (0900-1730).


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, Charles A. Marmor can be reached on 571-272-7095. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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7. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/David D. Le/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3681
08/22/2008

ddl

Application Number 	Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent under Reexamination	
	10/572,610	SCHEPPERLE, BERND	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	David D. Le	3681	